

The Good News

*Bringing Good News of
Great JOY for All People*



A Congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America
serving the East Orlando Community

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The Time Is Now, Come Church Arise!

by Pastor Jeff Linman

I will not soon forget the experience we shared on Sunday, February 27th when 70 Lutheran church leaders joined us for worship at *Spirit of JOY*. They were in Orlando for a conference to receive further training in their efforts to launch new congregations and redevelop existing ones throughout the country. Their leaders chose to have one group meet at *SoJ* on Friday and the second group to worship with us Sunday and have lunch and conversation with our leaders afterwards. The energy and spirit as 277 people nearly filled our worship center was phenomenal! I know we planted some new dreams in their hearts and blessed them with encouragement. But they blessed us as well. I could see in the eyes of our volunteers and members that God was using our guests to affirm what God has done here and to confirm God's desire to use us to help renew the Church! It was a privilege and a blessing to be asked to share our story!

The most moving moment for me occurred when we sang "By Our Love", a new song written by Christy Nockels. When we stood to sing the chorus *The Time Is Now, Come Church Arise*...I heard these words as God's challenge to every leader gathered with us for worship to get moving and to expand their witness of love for a hurting world. And as I read the words again today, I hear God challenging us at *Spirit of JOY* to take our already wonderful witness of love for our neighbors, both here and afar, to an even higher level of Kingdom impact...because there is so much more we can do!

While it was humbling to have so many leaders on Sunday aspiring to be like us, just as we aspired to be like other growing churches when we launched 14 years ago, I know all too well that we are far from perfect and could do so much more! Even as we have grown in recent months, we

have had a couple of families leave to join other churches because they failed to make a small group connection at *SoJ*. We are clearly not perfect. We need each other and we need to find better ways to do life together! So as we share in this year's journey to the cross and beyond in March and April, please join us for worship on Sundays as 6 of our lay leaders challenge us with their Renewing Joy talks...and then gather again Wednesday night to apply Sunday's words to daily life by getting better connected with one another over supper and in table groups...with a little singing and laughter on the side!



As we all seek to grow in our life and Kingdom impact, take a moment to read the words of *By Our Love*. Hear them as God's call to all of us in these days...
The Time Is Now, Come Church Arise!

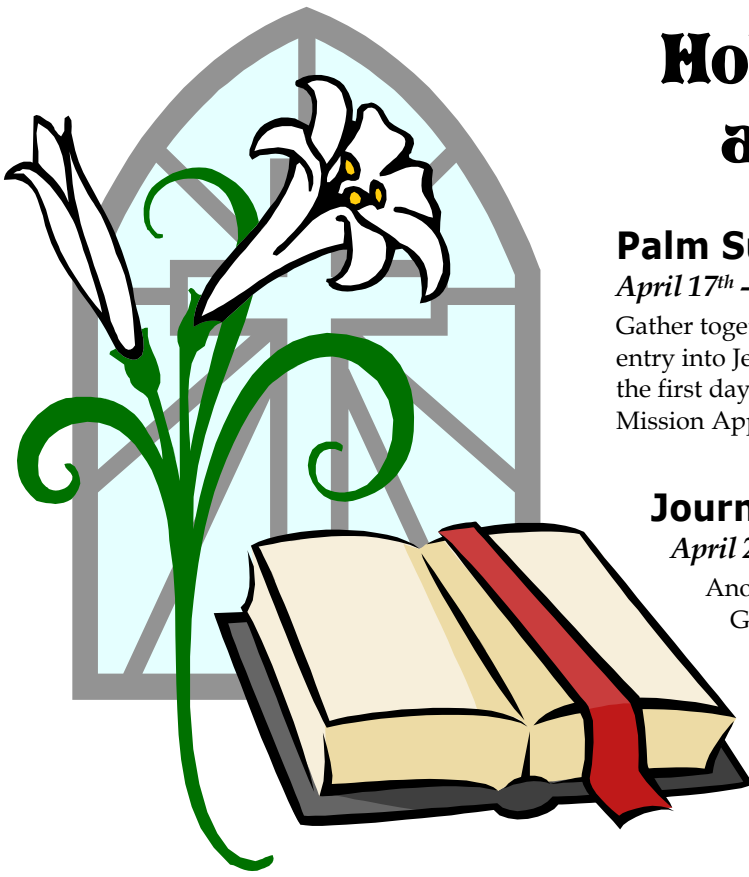
*Brothers, let us come together
Walking in the Spirit, there's much to be done...
We will come reaching, out from our comforts
And they will know us by our love...*

*Sisters, we were made for kindness
We can pierce the darkness as He shines through us...
We will come reaching, with a song of healing...
And they will know us by our love!*

*Children, You are hope for justice,
Stand firm in the Truth now, set your hearts above
You will be reaching, long after we're gone,
And they will know you by your love!*

*The time is now, Come Church arise...
Love with His hands, See with His eyes...
Bind it around you, Let it never leave you,
And they will know us by our love...*

Holy Week & Easter at *Spirit of JOY!*



Palm Sunday

April 17th - 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.

Gather together with palms raised for Sunday worship to remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and his impending journey to the cross. This will also be the first day of our *Free To Dream: Sharing Mission Joy!* Debt Retirement Mission Appeal.

Journey to The Cross, Good Friday

April 22nd, 7:00 p.m.

Another unique interactive experience for all ages is being planned for Good Friday. This is a wonderful experience for all ages. Journey to the Cross combines Maundy Thursday and Good Friday in one night to help us remember all of the events leading up to Jesus' death on the cross. There will be several stations set up throughout our building portraying various aspects of the passion with ample time for personal reflection. Plans are still being finalized, but you can expect them to include time for the following:

- *Communion in a unique, experiential fashion*
- *A foot washing station*
- *"Garden of Gethsemane" prayer stations offering a variety of ways to pray and reflect... with music, candles, art projects, paper for writing, etc.*
- *Dramatic opportunities to encounter the stories of some of the Biblical characters who were there as they reflect upon their experience and struggle with the trial and crucifixion.*
- *Time for personal reflection at the cross and an opportunity to nail prayer or sins to it.*

The evening will conclude with worship around the cross in the Worship Center with special music and time to remember Jesus' last words as the room slowly descends into darkness. There will also be time to share with a prayer partner before leaving. Prepare your heart for Easter joy by sharing in this meaningful worship experience! This is a powerful experience so consider inviting friends and family to join you!

Easter Sunday Celebration

April 24th - 9:00 & 10:45 a.m., Sunrise Service at 7 a.m.

Easter Breakfast/Youth Trip Fundraiser Planned!

Plan to come early or stay late to enjoy *SoJ's* Easter breakfast once again. This year's breakfast will be sponsored by the Youth Ministry Team. Breakfast will be served after the 7 a.m. Sunrise Service (about 8 a.m.) and after the 9 a.m. Celebration Service (about 10:15 a.m.) The menu is still being finalized but will include an egg casserole, breakfast coffee cakes and pastries, juice, and coffee. There will be no set fee for the breakfast but donations of any amount will be invited with all proceeds benefiting *SoJ's* summer youth mission trip. Donations of food items needed for the egg casserole, as well as coffee cakes and pastries are also being sought. Please sign-up online to enjoy the breakfast and to make food donations by April 17th so we can plan accordingly!

These are all wonderful opportunities to invite your new neighbors and unchurched friends to joy-n you!

Children's Ministry News

Vacation Bible School, July 11th -15th

SHAKE IT UP CAFÉ: WHERE KIDS CARRY OUT GOD'S RECIPE! We're bringing kitchen fun to kids at our summer Vacation Bible School. Children will become chefs-in-training as they discover God's recipe for living. Watch for registration and sign-up information. Let's get cooking!

VBS Volunteers Needed!

Would you like to spend the week of July 11-15 at SHAKE IT UP CAFÉ teaching young chefs the secret ingredients for being a follower of God? Kids will carry out God's recipe through dramas, crafts, games, science activities, music, and hours of fun! There are various opportunities for leadership and support roles in order to bring the message alive and make this church wide ministry a success. Adult and youth volunteers are invited to grab your aprons and come help serve up the word of God! Sign up online today or see Helen Saxen, Amy Sheppard, or Shana Hales.

Sunday's Cool Updates

SoJ Kids Live B.I.G. - God's truths come alive each week as children continue to grow in God's love through interactive lessons that invite them into a deeper relationship with God through Jesus. Children are learning to incorporate these truths into their lives and share them with others.

March 6 - Abraham and Sarah

March 13 - Jacob's Ladder

March 20 - Joseph Goes to Egypt

March 27 - Psalm 23

April 3 - Cleaning the Temple

April 10 - Washing Feet

April 17 - Palm Sunday and Holy Week

April 24 - Easter

Sunday's Cool Food Drive, 2/27 - 4/9

Children are discovering ways to understand the spirit of generosity as they realize they can be God's hands and care for others. *Sunday's COOL* children are sponsoring a spring food drive. Their *B.I.G.* efforts will help contribute to Converge Food Ministries, which supports east side pantries, and be a blessing to our neighbors in need.

SoJ Cub Scout Pack

SoJ sponsors Cub Scout Pack 134 at 7 p.m. on Monday nights. They are always open to new members. Boys in the first thru fifth grades may apply. Also any adult interested in helping the pack is welcome to apply. Contact Chuck Call at 321-235-0898 or Mark Saxen at 321-235-0055.

Future Dreamers

Children and youth are essential to the future of *Spirit of Joy*. They will be an integral part of the Free to Dream campaign appeal this spring. Kids will have meaningful opportunities to share with others some of what God has given them. They will demonstrate the powerful connection between gratitude and giving through their gifts of generosity. They will bless others through their serving and worship, personal messages of faith, art displays, and accounts of their visions, hopes and dreams for the future. Generosity is an attitude of thanks for God's goodness and kids will help remind us of how well God looks after us and that giving generously pleases God.

Campbell's Soup Labels for SoJ

Spirit of JOY collects Campbell's Soup Labels to provide free resources for *Sunday's COOL!* Look for the "Labels for Education" logo by the UPC of any Campbell's, Swanson, V8, Prego or Pepperidge Farm product. Please cut just the UPC code off and drop it in the box at the Welcome Center.

Nursery Notes

Nursery Staff - The Fish Bowl is blessed with Jeri Hatcher serving at the 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. services. Jeri's main focus is on providing the children with a safe, loving and Christ-centered environment on Sunday mornings.

Nursery Volunteers Needed - *SoJ* has an ongoing need for regular nursery volunteers to serve and care for our little ones. We need at least one volunteer per service during worship each week. If you have a warm heart and a kind spirit and would like to volunteer, please sign-up online! Volunteers allow the nursery staff to spend more time with the children reading the weekly Bible story!

What a JOY!

Baptismal JOY!

Alexa Priscilla Borieo and Paige Elise Borieo
on January 2nd and

Avery Nora Borieo on January 9th,
daughters of Danielle and Jeff.

Micah Elliott Spence,
son of Erika and Joshua on February 27th.

First Communion JOY!

We rejoice that the following child has received
Holy Communion for the first time at *SoJ*:

Jordan Soto on January 9th

Wedding JOY!

Karen Henry and Stephen Miliffe
were married on January 8th.

May they continue to grow in the grace
and love of Jesus every day!



Youth Group News – Middle School & High School

Wednesday Night Youth Group

The Youth group meets in the INLET every Wednesday night from 7 – 8:30 p.m. There is always room for more so come check it out! You are sure to find some time for games, worship, devotion, and fun!

DATE	TOPIC
March 2 nd	Where do you stand?
March 9 th	God's love is so unreasonable
March 16 th	Accountability
March 23 rd	Under 21 Night
March 30 th	Spring Break - No meeting
April 6 th	Made to make a difference - 1
April 13 th	Made to make a difference - 2
April 20 th	Made to make a difference - 3
April 27 th	Made to make a difference - 4

April 24th - Easter Breakfast Fund Raiser!

This year the youth will be responsible for serving our annual Easter Breakfast! We will be serving food from 8 – 9 a.m. and again at 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. We will be cleaning up after the breakfast too. Make sure you plan on attending to help out, eat and raise some funds serving the church! All funds raised go to our annual servant trip!

April 30th - Joyfest Lock-In! 8 p.m. – 2 p.m.

We will be staying the night at the church then waking up the next day to participate in this year's Joy Fest where we will do our part to help the community with service projects and mission work! Cost \$5.00

Servant Trip 2011 – Raleigh, North Carolina!

July 30th - August 6th

This year's Servant Trip will take the group to the capital of North Carolina! We will be helping assist some inner city ministries, kids clubs, and other outreach ministries. If you would like to attend, please let Matt Metz know as soon as possible. Space is limited and a \$60 deposit is needed to hold your spot! Don't miss this life changing experience!

If you have any questions about events or need extra details please contact Matt Metz at Matt@spiritofjoy.org. Also connect with the group on Facebook by doing a search for *Spirit of Joy Youth*!

Young Adult & College Community

Weekly Gathering! Going "DEEPER"

Acoustic Worship, Relaxed Atmosphere, Tea & Coffee, Relevant Messages, Discussion & Fellowship. Meeting on Monday nights from 7 – 9 p.m. in "The Gathering Room" unless otherwise noted.



"Can't Stop The Current" Series
on the book of 1 John

DATE	TOPIC
March 14	The River of Life. 1 John 1
March 21	Dam. 1 John 2:1-14
March 28	The Meandering River. 1 John 2:15-29
April 4	Stop The Irrigation. 1 John 3:16-17
April 11	Test The Waters. 1 John 4:1-6
April 18	Living in the River. 1 John 4:7-21
April 25	Blood in the Water. Baptism Remembrance Service.

Social Events! Going "WIDER"

JoyFest! April 30th – Watch the weekly bulletin and online for more details to come.

Servant Events! Going "FARTHER"

Our "Farther" events are designed to help you reach out and make a difference!

Cleaning Team! April 3rd, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. It's our turn to help lend a hand around the church. Please come help us clean the church. Donuts and vacuums will be provided!

JoyFest! April 30th – We will be participating in various servant projects in the East Orlando area! Watch for more details online at www.spiritofjoy.org!

Check out information for all events, connect to our facebook group and plug in at www.staycurrent.org.



Spirit of JOY Community Outreach

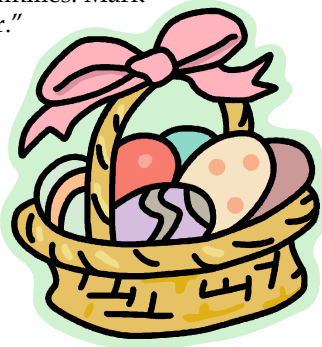
JoyFest: Day of Joyful Service and Celebration, April 30th

This year's community outreach *JoyFest*, Saturday, April 30th, will once again be a day of community service. Imagine every *SoJ* member... all 300+ of us... young and old... inviting a friend to spend the morning serving with them at various community sites... and then enjoying a free meal and fun for the entire community at *SoJ* afterwards? Imagine the impact 700 people serving would have! Imagine the energy! Imagine how pleased God would be! Renewing communities requires this kind of dreaming. A Planning Team is being formed now. Please go online and sign-up soon! Watch online and in the Sunday bulletin for further details of activities and ways to get involved as a volunteer to help make this dream a reality. And be sure to invite your neighbors and friends! This event will also be one of the major celebrations of our *Free to Dream: Sharing Mission Joy!* campaign appeal.

Easter Projects

For Easter, we are collecting monetary donations to purchase 300 hams for Harvest of Hope families. Mark check or envelope "HOH Easter."

We are also collecting supplies so that we can share Easter Baskets with the children! New and/or used baskets and colored grass, small stuffed animals, plastic eggs, and wrapped candy for the plastic eggs are needed. Please drop off donations in the café wagon on Sunday.



Monthly Harvest of Hope Collection

SoJ's Outreach Team collects a different food item for the Harvest of Hope ministry in the Bithlo area. Watch the weekly bulletin for the specific item each month and place your donations in the wagon by the cafe by the 3rd Sunday of the month. Monetary donations are welcomed too. Mark an *SoJ* offering envelope HoH and place it in the offering basket.

Converge Food Ministries

On the first Sunday of each month, area churches collect canned meats, veggies, fruit, juice as well as rice, cereal, baby products, peanut butter and jelly for the 5 neighborhood church food pantries. *Spirit of JOY* serves as the collection center. Bring your donations the first Sunday of every month. Thank you for your support and generosity!

Adult Literacy Training

2010 was a year of phenomenal growth! The Adult Literacy League is currently serving more than 1,200 adults EACH WEEK! If you would be interested in giving someone in our community the gift of literacy, please consider becoming a tutor. Learning to read is the surest way to self sufficient employment and the road out of poverty. The next tutoring training sessions are on March 26th, 9 a.m. - 12 noon or 1 - 4 p.m. Please contact Mitz Oates at 321-247-5956 for more info.

Quilting Team

SoJ's quilters meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month at 9:30 a.m. Additional helpers are always welcome. Many go out to lunch afterwards. If you have any questions or need more information, please call Quaidie Hock at 407-657-8420, or Marsha Call at 321-235-0898.

Bicycle Ministry Update

As the Bicycle Ministry enters its fifth year of serving those in our community who use and need inexpensive transportation, we have reached a crisis. In the past, we have depended on a few major contributors as the source of discarded bikes. With the downturn of the economy, several other organizations have also tapped those same sources. This has resulted in fewer bikes coming to our bike ministry for repair and recycling to our community. Additionally, the demand has continued to grow and we have seen God's hand in providing bikes when there were none, just the right parts were found to do repairs and a willing group of homeless and financially challenged who spent time working to rebuild "dead" bikes.

So if you have a bike or know of a source of used, unwanted, discarded bikes, we are seeking donations to allow this ministry to continue the work of recycling bicycles to those in need. Please email information to bikes@spiritofjoy.org. Donations can also be made directly at the church or by contacting Ken Raue, 407-694-3105. If you are mechanically inclined or interested in learning how to repair or adjust your bike, you are invited to check out the bike ministry which opens shop on the first and third Saturday of the month from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. The only requirement is an interest in serving Christ in the form of someone who needs inexpensive transportation for work or obtaining a meal.

2011 Global Mission Trip Update

Due to a family health issue for a non-*SoJ* member who has served as a key Burundi medical team member in the past, a planned trip to Burundi this summer has been postponed until next year. We are still hoping to go on a one week trip to Haiti in the summer to serve at the Village of Hope and the Lutheran church in Haiti. Estimated cost: \$700. If you are interested and would like more information, speak to Pastor Jeff as soon as possible!

Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN), a Family Promise Organization

Spirit of JOY regularly hosts four homeless families in our building as part of the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). IHN is a network of churches that each provide a home for homeless families approximately once a quarter. The beauty of this program is it allows families to stay together under one roof and provides the skill set to transition a family from being homeless to having a home. I ask that you pray for IHN as it goes through a period of renewal and watch for announcements on how you can help revitalize the program!!

SoJ just concluded its first hosting in 2011. Our next hosting is April 17-24. Watch for the IHN table soon in the *SoJ* lobby to sign-up to serve!

Prayer Vision Team (PVT) News



Transforming *Spirit of JOY* by Growing our Relationship with God through Prayer

- By sharpening our prayer focus and raising its priority
- Through education, mentoring, sermons, and publicity
- To increase prayer frequency and comfort levels
- As individuals and groups, both privately and publicly

Prayer List Distributed To Everyone - We encourage everyone at *SoJ* to partner in prayer! The weekly Prayer List is emailed to the entire congregation. Please feel free to pray for any or all of the requests as God gives the opportunity! Some find it helpful to print the list each week and place it some-where visible as a reminder to pray. Extra copies are available each Sunday in the Prayer Book at the Welcome Center. Thanks for your partnership in prayer! As it says in James 5:16... "*The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.*" If you'd like to be on the email list, contact the church office at 407-282-4569.

Sunday Morning Prayer @ 8:30 a.m. - All worship participants gather for prayer each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. As we grow into a house of prayer for all people, you are welcome to join them any Sunday!

Prayer Partners Available During AND After Worship - Prayer Partners are available in the Worship Center (during worship) as well as after worship in the Prayer Room adjacent to the church office. You may seek them out for prayer before or after Communion or after worship. All are welcome. If you would like to become a Prayer Partner, contact Ina Wheeler at 407-273-7754 or Pam Rousseau at 407-568-4093.

The Joyful Reader Introduces... *The Joy Wall*

The church bookstore recently added *The Joy Wall* to its displays. All items on this wall are products that produce funds for various *Spirit of JOY* projects and causes.

It is a 100 percent donation with each purchase. The bookstore receives nothing except the joy of helping the missions of the church.

Currently included on the wall are items whose purchase supports the youth and the operating fund. *SoJ's* book, *Spirits of Joy*, can also be purchased. **The purchase price donation goes into the fund designated by the person buying the book.**

In the coming months, the store hopes to add Joy Mall Certificates for donations all year round to many of our outreach missions. Expected this fall is an educational environmental calendar. Except for the initial cost of the calendar, all proceeds will go towards building and grounds products for *Spirit of JOY* that are energy saving and earth friendly, therefore resulting in saving money for *SoJ*. The calendar is in the planning stages but is expected to feature environmental activities for children and money-saving coupons on earth-friendly products from established companies.

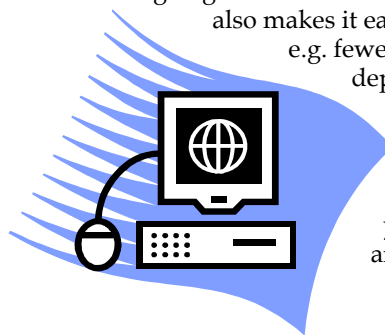
Please Designate Your Offering!

When you place a check in the offering basket, please be sure you indicate on the memo line and/or on the envelope where you want your gift to be used (Operating Fund, Debt Retirement Fund, or Other). Thanks for your continued support!

Electronic Giving Option!

This service provided by Thrivent Financial Services For Lutherans allows people to share their gifts with the church electronically, on a weekly or monthly basis. Not only does it make things simpler for the giver... e.g. no more scrambling Sunday morning to write checks or remembering to give before leaving for vacation, but it also makes it easier for the church...

e.g. fewer checks to endorse and deposit. For more details, pick up a brochure any Sunday at the Welcome Center. As always, thank you for your continued support and generosity!



Renewing Joy Retreat Update

Due schedule conflicts that hampered sign-up, *SoJ's Renewing Joy Retreat* has been postponed until Sept. 30 - Oct. 2. To give a preview of the retreat, six of the lay talks will be presented during worship as part of our "Renewing Joy" Lenten journey. On Wednesday from 7 to 8 p.m. each week, you're invited to apply the previous Sunday's talk to your life by gathering with others for some guided table conversation, singing, and surprises. You're welcome to sign-up for the *WNL* meal at 6:15 pm.

Learning Opportunities

Wednesday Night Live (WNL)

Wednesday Night Live (WNL), our mid-week faith-building event for all ages begins with supper served from 6:15 to 7 p.m., for a \$3 donation. After supper, *WNL* transitions into a variety of activities including Middle and High School Youth Ministry activities along with several adult LIFE Groups. This is a great mid-week way to connect as a community of faith plus a break from cooking... so consider giving *WNL* a try!

Wednesday Night Live Food Team Volunteers Needed!

Do you enjoy cooking or shopping for food... serving, cleaning up or just working with a group of fun people? We have a new Cooking Team that is always looking for more volunteers. If you can help once in a while on Wednesday nights, call the church office at 407-282-4569 to let us know!

LIFE Group Update

Spirit of JOY's small groups are called LIFE Groups. They meet regularly for Bible study, prayer, and support using a variety of different curriculum including a follow-up Bible study connected to Pastor Jeff's sermon each Sunday. Copies of this study may be downloaded each week after worship at spiritofjoy.org/biblestudies. Check out the *Life Group bulletin board in the SoJ lobby as well as online*. To get involved in a Life Group, or to help start a new group, sign-up online at spiritofjoy.org/lifegroups and our Life Group Coordinator, Jim Zimmerman, will contact you!

Recently Married Couples LIFE Group

If you are interested in being part of a Recently Married Couples LIFE Group that meets monthly, contact Dain and Angela Weister or TJ and Jeannie Kiriwas.

Couples with Young Children Life Group!

Want to make faith connections with parents for support and encouragement? A Life Group for couples with pre-school age or younger children is being formed. A meeting is planned so sign-up online at spiritofjoy.org/parents. Four couples have already signed up!

Doing Justice LIFE Group

Reflect on living a Christ-like life by doing justice at a new Life Group meeting at *SoJ* at 7p.m. on Wednesdays in Room 7. Enjoy Bible study and conversation honoring our similarities and differences. Come early for supper if you'd like... but remember to sign-up online! Questions? Contact Anna Elias.

Job Seekers' Support

Are you looking for a job? Leanne Duffy is available to offer job search information and support and will reconvene a weekly group as needed. Please contact her at Lduffy415@yahoo.com.

Men's Ministry News

Calling all men from age 16 and up! The Men's Ministry has been hosting a Men's Breakfast on the third Saturday of each month at 8:00 a.m. Although we have enjoyed being a small group, we'd like to invite all men to join us once a month to talk guy stuff with a Christ focused approach. After breakfast, we can break out into smaller groups for discussion and study.

Are you interested in a men's retreat? Since the "Renewing Joy" Retreat has been postponed until the fall, if you'd be interested in planning/attending a men's retreat, email Ken Raue at klraue@aol.com to share your interest.

Approximately every other month, we help clean the facilities. With the new cleaning plan and schedule, this process has taken a little over an hour with six people. Adding more hands could reduce the time greatly. If you haven't helped clean the church before, we have plenty of men who'd be willing to provide guidance to any new hands.

Lutheran Woman Today

A group of senior women meet from September through May on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in The Fairways on Highway 50 for Bible study and fellowship. Contact Rosemary Gebauer at 407- 281-1534 for details.

Women's Bible Study

Come join us at *Spirit of JOY* for a new Bible study using the Growing Older and Wiser Life Guide. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7:15 p.m. at *SoJ*. Our studies are centered around great fellowship and using God's word to direct our daily living. If you have questions, please contact Mitz Oates at 321-247-5956.

Women's Book Club

The *SoJ* Women's Book Club meets on the third Tuesday of the month in the Prayer Room at 7:15 p.m. Monthly attendance is not required. Call Diane Belk for more details.

March 15th: *The Wives of Henry Oades* by Johanna Moran. Based on a real-life case, this novel takes place in the 1800s. Henry Oades moves his family to New Zealand where tragedy strikes one night. His wife and children are kidnapped by members of the Maori tribe. For months, Henry searches for his family. After they are presumed dead, Henry moves to California where he marries again. He and his second wife are happy until Henry's first wife and children show up after having escaped their captivity. Henry is now a bigamist. The story is told by the wives, two very strong women.

April 19th: *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford. This novel takes the reader to Seattle in the 1940s and two children, Henry, whose heritage is Chinese, and Keiko, whose heritage is Japanese, feel like outsiders. They form a strong friendship which lasts until they are separated during the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II. It is not until the 1980s, when Henry is a widower that he reflects on his past and his relationship with Keiko. A discovery of items left behind by Japanese-Americans during the "evacuation" prompts Henry to share his past with his son in hopes of improving their relationship.



Music & Creative Arts



Music & Arts News

For more information on any of the following, contact Chrissy Anderson, Interim Director of Music and Creative Arts, at 407-282-4368 or chrissy@spiritofjoy.org.

Joyful Noise - Our Sunday morning worship team rehearses Thursdays from 7 - 9 p.m. in the worship center. Members do not have to commit to being involved every week, only as often as they are available. We could always use additional musicians! We are especially looking for a second drummer, auxiliary percussionist, violinist, keyboardist, electric guitarists and male vocalists.

Media Ministry - More volunteers are needed!

We are looking for additional folks to join our team of sound techs & computer techs. Prior experience or training is helpful, but not necessary. We are also looking to expand this ministry: keeping our web site updated, running a video camera during services, or creating short films.

Drama Team - SoJ's Drama Team consists of writers and actors who are interested in utilizing their talents in short skits to enhance the worship experience. If you would like to be involved in the Drama Team, please contact Sandy and Doug Gaston at 407-382-4027.

SoJ Art Gallery - We hope you enjoyed the art gallery this past season! Please submit new art works to be displayed in the SoJ Art Gallery for the season of Lent and Easter by **Sunday, March 20th**! The theme for this season will be "*The JOY of Spring*." The purpose of SoJ's Art Gallery is to:

- 1) recognize excellence in visual arts;
- 2) offer an outlet for artists in our community;
- 3) glorify God by displaying the gifts of the artists.

Creative Arts Studio News

If you are interested in any of the following, would like more information or to sign up for lessons or classes at the CAS, please call 407-282-4368 or email CAS@spiritofjoy.org.

Private Music Lessons available - We have instructors for almost any instrument, and voice. Rates for SoJ members are \$18 for 30 minute lessons.

Private Art Lessons - Lessons are available to anyone who would like to have one-on-one art instruction with Nancy Watson. Lessons are \$22 per week for an hour lesson (\$20.00 for SoJ members). Limited times are available, so call now!

CAS Spring Showcase Recital and Art Show - This event is just around the corner! Our next spring recital will be on **Saturday, May 14th**! We encourage and invite everyone to attend and listen to all the many talented students here at the Creative Arts Studio.

Support the Grace Rate Fund - Our Grace Rate Funds are being used more and more in this economy, so please be on the lookout for fundraising events throughout the year to help support this important outreach ministry! If you are interested in volunteering your time with any future fundraising events, please see Chrissy for more information.

Two Worship Formats Offered

Spirit of JOY utilizes two Sunday worship formats. There is some music overlap but the 9 a.m. Blended Worship utilizes a more traditional "order" of worship and a couple of spirited but traditional songs. The 10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship utilizes a "worship and praise music set" and more contemporary music.

Free to Dream... Sharing Mission Joy! Appeal Begins April 17th!

Spirit of JOY will launch an exciting *Free to Dream... Sharing Mission Joy!* appeal on Sunday, April 17th. The campaign will ask members and friends to make a new 3-year commitment over and above their current weekly giving to insure that we can pay our \$10,000 monthly mortgage, pay back internal Dream Giver Loans and other mortgage principal to free up resources for mission, and to raise new funds for increased Acts 1:8 missions... start-up funds for an Early Childhood Center at SoJ, funds to support leadership initiatives and innovative Lutheran ministries in the Florida-Bahamas Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Haiti, and funds to help the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Burundi build their first church building. Watch for more exciting news in coming weeks!

Updates & Information

2011 Annual Meeting Results

Approximately 60 people participated in another very positive annual meeting of the congregation on Wednesday, February 23rd. The following action was taken:

- 2010 ministry highlights were shared.
- Marsha Call, Joshua Spence, and Lenore Wells were elected to serve three year terms on the Leadership Team. Claire Sourwine was elected to complete the final year of Christine Zimmerman's term on the Leadership Team.
- Holly Jezek, Lori Prunyi, Andrew Sheppard, and Becky (Hill) Thomson were elected to serve on the 2012 Nominating Committee with Terrence Koch and Connie Reuter serving as alternates.
- 2010 Financial Reports were received and a 2011 Operating Budget of \$357,154.77 with an additional \$51,948.00 for mortgage principle reduction was adopted. While this reflects a deficit of \$15,310.61, the revenue projections are conservative enough that our leaders are confident that we will be able to generate enough growth in giving and other revenues to overcome the deficit. One reason for optimism is that last year's adopted budget projected a \$37,528.33 deficit and we were blessed to end the year with a \$13,840.52 surplus!
- Suggested priorities for 2011 included the following:
 - Continue to focus on:
 - *Marketing and Intentional Evangelism*
 - *Assimilation*
 - *Stewardship*
 - Launch Renewing Joy Retreat for spiritual growth
 - Expand revenue for ministry support and evangelism!
 - *Launch early childhood education program / bridge to congregation*
 - *Continue marketing facilities for community use*

JoyFest '11 Planning Team Update

Spirit of JOY's 6th Annual *JoyFest* will be held the Saturday after Easter, April 30th. A Planning Team for this major community servant event is being formed. If you are interested in serving, please sign-up online soon.

Final Renovation Update!

The west sidewalk is in. The rear access gates are installed. The exterior walls have been repainted. All that is left is some additional landscape improvements and county mandated hand rails on the west steps. All items were completed within the approved Renovation Team budget... with some funds remaining to help underwrite future repairs. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way... and to God who directed our path!

Office Volunteer Update!

A special thank you to Penne Rutledge and Al Morris for responding to our appeal for additional office volunteers and to Karen Sumner for offering to be a substitute! We now have six volunteers each serving 4 hours per week every two to three weeks. The other volunteers are Chuck Call, Kristin Melville, and Karyn Sokolowski. Thanks so much for your joyful service!

Bookstore Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are currently being recruited to serve in *SoJ's* Joyful Reader Bookstore at both the 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. worship services. In addition to being a great source of books and Christian gifts, the bookstore is a critical first impression ministry at *SoJ*, making it easier for first time guests to mingle comfortably in the lobby area before or after worship as well as making connections with our friendly bookstore volunteers. If you enjoy being around books and people and would like to serve once a month or so, please sign up online or speak to any of the bookstore volunteers. Training will be provided!

Media and Communication Volunteer Opportunities

If you're interested in serving the world by helping *Spirit of JOY* in the areas of media and communication check out the following volunteer positions available:

Media Team: Lighting Designer, Computer Tech, Audio Engineer. Help run the tech equipment on Sunday mornings. Training provided. Serve once a month.

Design Team: Graphic Designer, Videographer, Photographer. Help create artistic pieces to promote events and capture the stories of how *Spirit of Joy* is renewing lives, communities, the church and world. Work on a project by project basis on your schedule.

Web Team: Help grow our website to be an informative and engaging destination. Whether its simple data entry or more complicated programming, we could use your help.

Marketing Team: If you have a background in marketing or just a passion for developing new and improved ways of telling the story of *SoJ* and our ministries to the church family and our community consider joining the marketing team.

Sign-up at spiritofjoy.org/mediacommunicationsvolunteers or contact Josh Linman at josh@spiritofjoy.org.

Volunteer To Make Phone Calls To Welcome Guests To *Spirit of JOY!*

Would you be willing to make 1 or 2 phone calls per week to make first time guests at *SoJ* feel welcome? With the help of a user friendly web application to track information, you will help connect with guests to encourage them to worship again. We'll coach you with what to say and how to use the web application. Interested? Contact Josh Linman or sign-up online at spiritofjoy.org/guestcalls.

E-mail Help Wanted!

Spirit of JOY's on-line devotions team is always looking for more volunteers to keep a 3 month per year rotation for each team member. It only takes a few minutes each day to send out the daily devotion. Training will be provided. If you are willing to help, please contact: Eleanor Kuhles, dekuhl@juno.com; Christa Dees, christadees@cfl.rr.com; or Cathy Luna, cathleenluna@yahoo.com.

Updates & Information

Doing LIFE Together... and Sharing Chores!

Cleaning should be done before the date listed by the group's name. Suggested cleaning days are Thursday - Saturday. Thanks to all the teams for their willingness to help! The upcoming schedule is as follows:

- March 6 - Bookstore/Book Club Team, Roswitha Wheeler
- March 13 - Joyful Noise, Chrissy Anderson
- March 20 - Men's Breakfast Group, Ken Raue
- March 27 - First Impressions Team, Debie Robles
- April 3 - Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Matt Metz
- April 10 - Wed. Women's LIFE Group, Katherine Smith
- April 17 - Wed. Coed LIFE Group, Patti Linman;
added responsibility this week: clean the IHN
bathrooms for upcoming housing
- April 24 - IHN Team, Mike Bodkin
- May 1 - Bookstore/Book Club Team, Roswitha Wheeler

We have simplified the cleaning process so the Cleaning Teams will now be focusing on the public areas... lobby and hallways, café, worship center and gathering, and restrooms ...with ministry teams and staff focusing on specific ministry areas like the offices, The Inlet and Splash Zone, CAS, and children's ministry areas. If you are not on a cleaning team but would like to help out once every cycle please sign-up online today at spiritofjoy.org/cleaning-team.

Want To Join Spirit of JOY?

New Member-Disciple Orientation Begins March 13th

Are you new to Spirit of JOY and want to learn more about us and what it means to become a member-disciple? If so, consider participating in the next *New Member-Disciple Orientation* beginning Sunday, March 13th at 12:30 p.m. The orientation will give people a chance to learn more about Jesus, the Church, and their place in it. The sessions are designed to answer the following questions: *Who is Jesus? What are Spirit of JOY's roots and where is it heading? How can you make a difference here?* Sessions will be held after the 10:45 a.m. worship service and include a light lunch to make participation easier. Sign up online!

Why Real Coffee Cups?

In order to be better stewards of the earth God has given us we are trying to incorporate more earth-friendly practices here at SoJ and at home. One way we can do this is by using real coffee cups instead of Styrofoam cups. Thanks for your understanding! If you'd like to take turns running the cups through the dishwasher after worship, please see Patti Linman.

Assistive Listening Devices Available

Four personal assistive listening earphones are available for anyone with hearing difficulty. They may be picked up from a volunteer in the tech booth on Sunday. Remember to return them after worship!

SoJ Office Hours

The SoJ office is open Monday - Friday from 10 am to 2 pm.

Keys and Security System

If you need regular access to the building, please contact Bob Belk for information regarding keys and updated information about our electronic security system.

Lutheran Counseling Services

Dr. Rick Armstrong is available at the Lutheran Counseling Services (LCS) satellite here at SoJ. To schedule an appointment, call 407-644-4692. You may also check out the LCS website at www.LutheranCounselingServices.org.

In Case Of Emergency

If you need pastoral care, contact Pastor Jeff at the church office at 407-282-4569. Monday is Pastor Jeff's day off. He can be reached at home at 407-281-9137 or on his cell at 407-435-8525. If for some reason you can't reach him immediately, please leave a message. In the event of an emergency, you may also call Pastor Don Erickson at 407-687-2364 or Pastor Bob Hock at 407-657-8420.

Spirit of JOY Staff

Ministers: People of *Spirit of JOY*

Pastor: Jeff Linman - pastorjeff@spiritofjoy.org

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Amy Sheppard - children@spiritofjoy.org

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JOY-n Us Sundays

1801 Rouse Road
(Corner of Rouse and Colonial)

9:00 and 10:45 am

Worship & Sunday's COOL
(9am-blended / 10:45am-contemporary)

Child Care for Preschool Children Available

Campus Ministry Gathering: Monday's @ 7 pm

		Spirit of JOY	
	E. Colonial Drive (SR 50)		
Dean Rd.		Rouse Rd.	Alafaya Trail
		SR 408	
		Lake Underhill Rd.	



SERMON SERIES

Renewing JOY Sermon Series

Is joy missing from your life? If so, six *SoJ* member-disciples will lead us on a journey to Easter in March and April that promises to renew our joy! Take a look at the following themes and the member-disciples sharing the witness. Then plan to be present for the journey to unfold and your joy to be renewed!

- March 6 - A Look in the Mirror (Leon Wheeler)
- March 13 - Coming Home (Paul Heroux)
- March 20 - Kingdom Living! (Anna Elias)
- March 27 - WWJR: What Would Jesus Read? (Jill Heroux)
- April 3 - God's Work Our Hands (Mike Bodkin)
- April 10 - Prayer: Our Lifeline (Ina Wheeler)

Looking forward to seeing you Sunday at *Spirit of JOY!*